第9話　これから

Chapter 9 From Here On

WHAT DO YOU MEAN...

YOU LOOK THE SAME AS ALWAYS...

...

IS THAT SO...

SATORU...

IF YOU'RE HAPPY, YOU SHOULD JUST LET IT SHOW...

YOU DON'T HAVE TO THINK ABOUT IT SO HARD...

YEAH...

...

I'M SUCH AN IDIOT

NOT THAT I'D LIKE IT...

THE FACE YOU MAKE WHEN YOU ARE WITH HARU...

IF YOU SHOWED OTHER PEOPLE THAT FACE, PEOPLE MIGHT LIKE YOU MORE...

SAME GOES FOR GINTAROU -SAMA...

I'M MAKING HARU WORRY AGAIN...

RIGHT NOW, I'M SUCH A...

THAT'S RIGHT...

I'M KINDA BORED~

SIGH

DID HE FALL ASLEEP ALREADY?

BY THE WAY, WHAT'S KAMIO UP TO?

IT'S STILL ONLY 11

LET'S GO TO BED SOON

DUNNO, MAYBE HE'S STUDYING

I'M NOT THE TYPE TO CHAT DURING MEALS MYSELF, SO IT DIDN'T REALLY BOTHER ME

SPEAKING OF WHICH, SAEKI -SAN IS ALWAYS QUIET DURING LUNCH AS WELL

I SEE WHAT YOU MEAN, CAN'T REALLY BREAK A HABIT, RIGHT...

AH, ABOUT THAT, SHINTO FAMILIES TEND TO KEEP QUIET DURING MEALS

NO WAY! IS HE ALWAYS SO QUIET LIKE THAT, THOUGH?

I WANNA GO BULLY HIM A LITTLE!

BUT BE-CAUSE WE SHOULDN'T, I TOTALLY WANT TO

Just like a cat

EITHER WAY, WE SHOULDN'T BOTHER HIM

you're right, we shouldn't

DAD'S ALWAYS DYING TO SPEAK SO HE'S ALWAYS FIDGETING AROUND DURING MEALS.

He came from a non-Shinto family after all

Really?

THAT'S WEIRD!

IKEGAMI -SAN, WHAT'RE YOU DOING?

WELL, HERE GOES

hug

stop it!

OH, I KNOW WHAT YOU MEAN

...What do you mean?

MAYBE

I'M SURE HE'S AWAKE

ISN'T IT OBVIOUS?!

SATORU?

I KNOW THAT EVERYONE'S DOING IT FOR MY SAKE, AND I'M HONESTLY VERY HAPPY

I'LL TRY TO BE MORE HONEST WITH MY FEELINGS FROM NOW ON

HARU

I'M SORRY

STOMP

STOMP STOMP

YEAH, I KNOW

...REALLY?

YOU DON'T HAVE TO FORCE YOUR-SELF...

STOMP STOMP STOMP

We're having an important conversation here!

THOSE GIRLS, SO LOUD AND NOISY!!

CLATTER

...

WE'RE COMING IN!!!

ズカズカ

IKEGAMI -SAN!

Wow, there's nothing in this room!

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?!

YOU'RE AWAKE AFTER ALL!

WHA...

WE'RE JUST CURIOUS IS ALL

WHAT DO YOU WANT...!

IT'S NOT LIKE WE HANG OUT TOGETHER ALL THE TIME, WHY DON'T YOU PLAY WITH US?

...

Wow

ARE YOU SERIOUS?! STUDYING?!

BUT YOU'RE AWAKE, AREN'T YOU?

Oh my

ARE YOU PLANNING ON STAYING UP ALL NIGHT?!

SORRY, HARU -CHAN!

PLAY...?

AT THIS HOUR?

Flinch

AH!

数学

BESIDES, YOU WEREN'T GETTING MUCH STUDYING DONE, RIGHT?

Cause of all the noise~

HEY, GIVE IT BACK...!

IKEGAMI -SAN, THAT BOOK...!

しゅん

YOU'RE ALREADY THIS FAR?!

数学

YOU MEAN THIS? HERE

23RD...

BY THE WAY, WHEN WAS YOUR BIRTHDAY AGAIN? SEPTEMBER SOMETHING, RIGHT?

...

WELL, IT'S NOT LIKE I CAN DO ANYTHING ABOUT IT...

HEY! STOP THAT WOMAN!

COME ON, WE BARELY TALKED TO HIM ALL DAY

I DON'T THINK WE REALLY SHOULD...

MAYBE WE REALLY SHOULDN'T BE DOING THIS...

It's fine~

HE'LL BE MORE WILLING TO OPEN UP AT AN HOUR LIKE THIS!

IT'S NOT LIKE I DIDN'T TRY...

...A...

IT'S B, RIGHT?!

WHAT'S YOUR BLOOD TYPE?

RIGHT, THAT'S THE SAME DAY AS THE FALL EQUINOX!

HE WAS FINALLY STARTING TO BE MORE POSITIVE ABOUT HIMSELF, AND YOU CAME ALONG AND...

YOU GUYS RUINED IT ALL!

THIS IS HAVING THE OPPOSITE EFFECT!!

WELL, THIS MIGHT BE A CHANCE FOR SATORU-KUN TO MAKE SOME NEW FRIENDS...

...

What else~

YOUR HEIGHT IS THE SAME AS ME, RIGHT?

Again, about my height...

I CAN USE IT LATER!

...

Use it for what...

WELL, IF I HAD THIS KIND OF INFORMATION

HEY...

A type...

INTERESTING~

Why're you writing it down

GO TO SLEEP!!

GO BACK TO YOUR ROOM!

GIVE IT A REST!

GIVE IT BACK!

AH

ばっ

CAN I COME WATCH?

AH, I'VE NEVER SEEN THE KENDO CLUB IN ACTION

LET'S JUST SEE HOW THINGS GO

HEY!!!

YOU'RE THE NEW KID, IT'S NATURAL THAT I'D BE INTERESTED~

BESIDES, WHAT'RE YOU PLANNING TO DO WITH ALL THAT STUFF!!

WHAT SHOULD I DO...

COME ON!!

ばっ

AH, GUNNA IGNORE ME?

I DON'T CARE, DO WHATEVER YOU WANT!!

BUT COULD YOU PERHAPS SHOW ME YOUR NOTES?

I'M SORRY TO BOTHER YOU

ho ho

...

Well, whatever I don't really care

I'M SURE SHE'LL GIVE UP EVENTUALLY.

Let's just ignore her

Oh~ A rare look

HOW'D IT GET LIKE THIS?

Ikegami san, where'd you get that from.

Stop avoiding me!!

WHAT'S WITH THIS...

Funabashi is out of the way

WAIT A MINUTE.

I TOLD THEM THAT THEY'RE BEING A BOTHER...

Let take a picture with everyone together

ARE THEY REALLY DOING ALL THIS FOR ME?

IS THAT TRUE?

HAPPY?

I MEAN, I WAS A LITTLE BIT HAPPY...

NO, THEY'RE DOING THIS FOR ME, I'M SURE OF IT...

Come on, let's go

Wait a minute, let me..

...UP

WHY AM I LETTING THEM DO THIS...?

SHUT UP

すっ

SA...

SATORU -KUN?

Satoru...?

I TOLD YOU TO STOP BEING SO NOISY!!

WHY CAN'T YOU CONSIDER THAT YOU'RE BEING A BOTHER!!

STOP TAKING NOTES! STOP TAKING PICTURES! STOP TOUCHING MY STUFF!!

WHAT'S WITH YOU!!

I'm being punished like Ikegami-san...

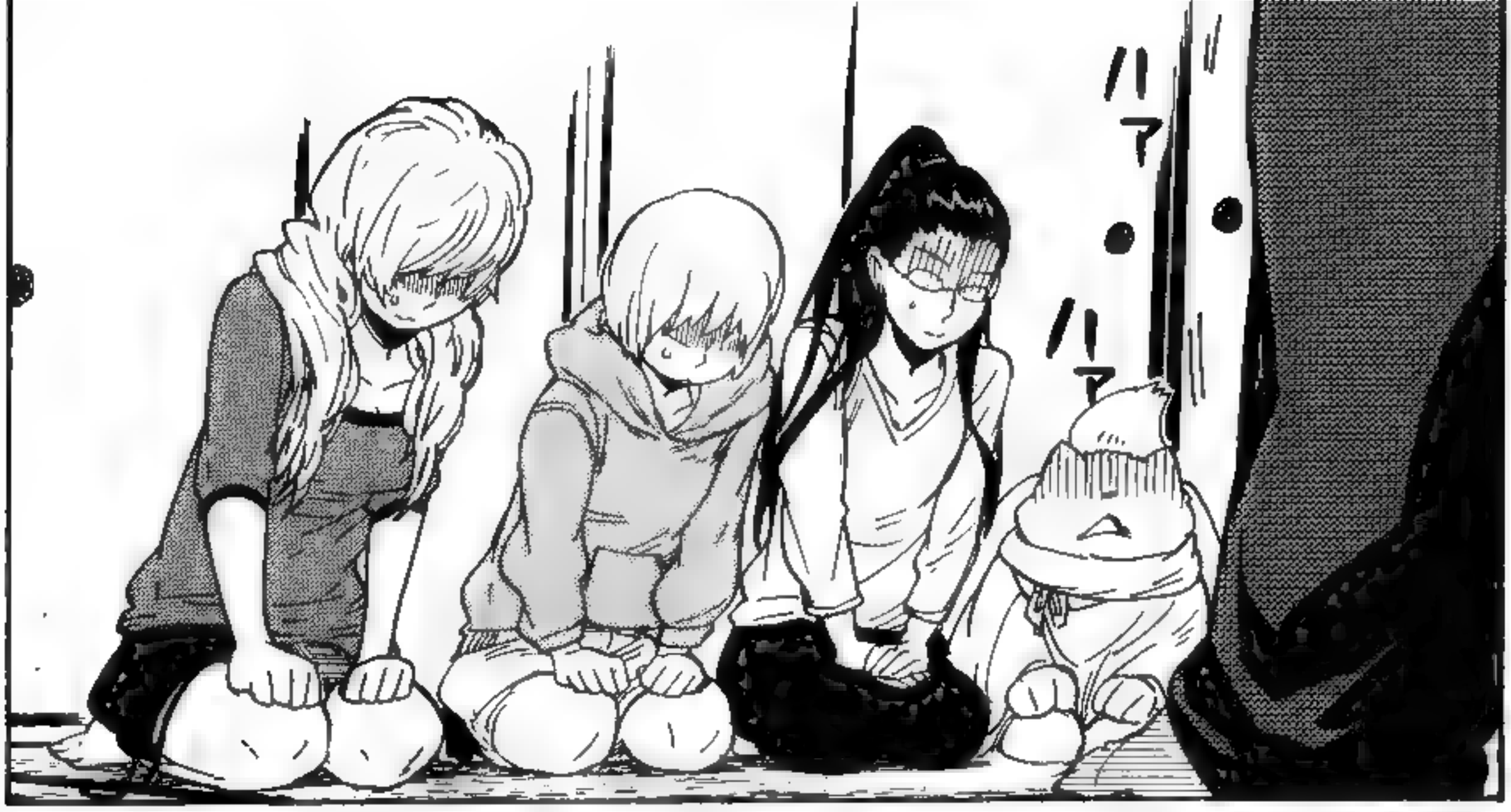
you hit me really hard!

OW~!! WHAT'RE YOU DOING!!

THAT'S WHAT I WANT TO SAY!!

AND MORE-OVER...

I'M STILL YOUNG I CAN STILL GROW TALLER!!!



WE'RE SORRY...
WE'RE...

STOP TALKING ABOUT HIS INSECURITIES...
THAT'S RIGHT, IKEGAMI -SAN
...
LIKE I SAID, I'M SORRY!!
I'M SORRY, ALRIGHT~?
IF YOU'RE SO SELF-CONSCIOUS ABOUT YOUR HEIGHT...
!!
Still talking about my height?!
...AH
IT'S FINE...
pff

WAIT A MINUTE, WHY DID WE...

BUT WE'RE THE ONES AT FAULT, AREN'T WE?

THIS GIRL'S THE WORST HERE!

WHAT'RE YOU LAUGH-ING AT!

HAHA HA!

3°

...

I MEAN, WE WERE GOING TO...

SORRY... BUT I DON'T THINK HE'S REALLY UPSET BECALSE OF THE HEIGHT...

...

RIGHT~?

COME ON...

OH COME ON~

OH GOSH...

BUT

SORRY...

I KIND OF FEEL STUPID NOW

...

EVEN SHE SAID WE SHOULD TRY TO GET ALONG~

IKEGAMI -SAN!

RIGHT! YOU'RE ALWAYS DOING NOTHING BUT STUDYING, SO WE WANTED TO TALK TO YOU~

WE'RE SORRY FOR BOTHERING YOU, BUT...

WE WANTED TO GET TO KNOW YOU

IT'S YOUR WELCOMING PARTY, AFTER ALL!!

SOUNDS GOOD!

WELL, SINCE WE'RE ALL HERE TOGETHER, LET'S TALK ABOUT SOMETHING!

...

IS THAT A NO?

WEL-COMING PARTY, HUH...

...

...

sigh

WELL, I GUESS I'VE GOT NO CHOICE

I'LL TAG ALONG AND PLAY

LIKE YOU SAID, SINCE WE'RE ALL HERE...

Alright, move the desk to the middle

Let's get some snacks

YAY~

REALLY?!

HUH...?

I'M SORRY ABOUT TODAY...

HARU -CHAN...

THAT'S NOT TRUE!!

SO, YOU GOT CHASED OUT OF THE ROOM AND NOW YOU CAN'T SLEEP CAUSE YOU'RE LONELY, S THAT IT? WHAT A LAUGH.

keke

DOESN'T LOOK GOOD EITHER WAY!

WELL, HOW WAS IT?

I'VE NEVER SEEN SATORU LIKE THAT BEFORE...

Honestly those girls...

BUT...

THOSE GIRLS ARE UNBELIEV-ABLE!!

He might've gotten worse than before!

IT'S NOT LIKE I REALLY CARE...

BUT

WHETHER HE MAKES FRIENDS WITH HUMANS OR WITH HERALDS

HUMANS ARE SCARIER THAN YOU KNOW

YOU HAVEN'T SEEN ANYTHING YET

...

WELL, THANKS A BUNCH

YOU LOOKED LIKE YOU WERE LONELY

SO HARU WILL KEEP YOU COMPANY!

Oh gosh, I must look like a mess

How do I look?

haha

I CAN'T BELEVE IT

SORRY...

うわあ

WOW, LOOK AT ALL YOUR FACES~

WE WENT TO SLEEP JUST AFTER YOU WOKE UP...

Yumi-chan's still pretty energetic though

GOOD MORNING!

Even though it's already almost noon

HIS NAME IS OTOMATSU -SAMA...

...

HUH?

HARU'S PARTNER BACK AT MY SHRINE, HE'S AN OLDER FOX

WHEN WE LEFT, HE TOLD US THIS

RELAX AND TAKE IT EASY, HE SAID

I REALLY WANT TO MEET THIS OTOMATSU -SAMA SOME DAY!

he he

I FEEL EXHAUSTED WHENEVER I'M WITH YOU

BUT RATHER THAN TAKING IT EASY...

HA HAHA

I'M SURE YOU WILL

YOU'RE NOT SUPPOSE TO BUY A CHARM FOR YOURSELF

What are you, an old lady?

I wonder f I should get one for health

THAT'S NOT HOW IT WORKS

SHOULD I GET MYSELF A CHARM WHILE I'M HERE? MAYBE SOMETHING TO ADD N MY STUDIES

WE GOT A MIDTERM THIS MONTH AFTER ALL, MAYBE I SHOULD PRAY FOR SOME BETTER GRADES

HERE

MY THANKS FOR THE WELCOMING PARTY

OH, IS THAT SO?

DON T YOU EVEN KNOW THAT?

IT S MORE EFFECTIVE F YOU RECEIVE IT FROM SOMEONE

YOU'RE SO MEAN~

I'LL PAY FOR IT LATER...

THANKS...

You live here anyway

You don't get one

YAY~

THEN THAT MEANS YOU THINK OF US AS FRIENDS, RIGHT?

IT BECOMES EVEN MORE EFFECTIVE

WHEN YOU GIVE YOUR CHARM TO SOMEONE THAT YOU CARE ABOUT

IS HE CURSING THEM..?

YEP, BEST OF FRIENDS

AKI-CHAN, SA-CHAN

YAHO~ MAKOTO ONEE -CHAN!

THERE'S AN ONII-CHAN TOO!

THERE'S NEW PEOPLE HERE!

WELCOME

*DEMON

fufu

ONI*, SHE SAYS...

GOOD TO MEET YOU TOO...

I'm Sachina

I'm Aki

GOOD TO MEET YOU, ONII-CHAN!

WE LIVE CLOSE BY

PLEASE GET ALONG WITH HIM, OKAY?

HE'S GOING TO BE PART OF OUR FAMILY FROM NOW ON

Hello

She's my friend

Shut up

AS EXPECTED, THE HANDSOME BOY IS POPULAR WITH GIRLS

GOOD MORNING, OBAA -CHAN.

OH MY, THERE'S SO MANY CUTE MIKO-SANS TODAY, AREN'T THERE

ha ha ha...

I PROBABLY JUST FAILED TO NOTICE HOW IT REALLY WAS...

SHRINES ARE THE SAME NO MATTER WHERE YOU GO

I'M SURE IT WAS LIKE THIS BACK AT HOME AS WELL...

...THAT'S TRUE...

I FEEL LIKE...

THE ATMOSPHERE HERE IS VERY DIFFERENT FROM THE SHRINE BACK HOME...

WHAT'S WRONG

KAMIO～

...

WHAT'S THE BIG DEAL?

IT'S NOT LIKE SOMETHING YOU'D NORMALLY NOTICE

PLEASE EXCUSE ME

...NOTHING REALLY

WHAT WERE YOU TALKING TO GIN ABOUT?

AS COMMEMORATION!

LET'S TAKE A PICTURE!

THIS SHRINE IS A REALLY NICE PLACE

I JUST THOUGHT THAT...

IT JUST DAWNED ON ME THAT I'M GOING TO BE HERE FOR A WHILE

LET'S GET ALONG

YEAH

LET'S!

AH~

OJI-SAN, LET'S TAKE A PICTURE TOGETHER!

Obaa-chan too!

OH, IS IT ALRIGHT?

OH, WHAT WAS THAT?

AHA HA

fufu

LOOKS LIKE HE'S OPENING UP A LITTLE

WHAT A PEACEFUL DAY~

Funabashi Hiwako

17 years old High School student, Sophomore

Vice president of the student council

Her dad is a member of The Diet

Her family is the head of a tea ceremony school

Is a high class young lady

Has a father complex (She is self-aware of her complex)

Has a fancy for Tatsuo